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Identical letters dated 3 December 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the daily report on the activities carried out by the inspection teams of the United Nations Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Commission (UNMOVIC) and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in Iraq on 3 December 2002.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammed A. **Aldouri**
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the identical letters dated 3 December 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council

Daily report on the activities of the UNMOVIC and IAEA inspection teams in Iraq

Report on the activities carried out on 3 December 2002

The activities of the UNMOVIC and IAEA inspection teams on Tuesday, 3 December 2002, were as follows:

1. The UNMOVIC team set out from its headquarters at the Canal Hotel in Baghdad at 8.25 a.m. The team included 18 inspectors and was headed by Mr. Demetrius Perricos. The IAEA team set out from its headquarters at the Canal Hotel in Baghdad at 8.30 a.m. The team included five inspectors and was headed by Mr. Jacques Baute. The two teams arrived at the Sajud presidential palace at 8.55 a.m. A group from both teams also arrived at the same time at the rear gate to the palace. At 9 a.m., the head of the team asked the Iraqi side for access to the site. Two minutes later, the head of the inspection team was notified that approval for access to the site had been given. The head and members of the two teams entered the palace and divided into six groups. These groups visited all of the palace buildings and amenities, as well as the nearby Sajda hall. Using portable equipment, a group from the IAEA team conducted a radiation survey inside the palace rooms and halls in order to detect any alleged nuclear activity or allegedly undeclared nuclear materials or radioactive sources. The two teams completed their work and left the Sajud palace at 10.30 a.m. and arrived back at their headquarters at the Canal Hotel in Baghdad at 10.50 a.m.

2. The Sajud presidential palace and the adjacent Sajda hall are among those people's palaces around which the people of Iraq formed a fence in 1998, prior to the United States and United Kingdom aggression of 16-20 September 1998, in order to protect them from the hostile action and iniquities of the attackers. After 1998, this occasion became an annual tradition, by order of the President and leader, may God protect him, where those of the Iraqi people who, in 1998, formed the national human fence around these Iraqi residences, are received at the Sajud palace, the Sajda hall and the other people's palaces as guests of the Presidency of the Republic, which serves them with banquets for the breaking of their fast during the holy month of Ramadan. As part of this annual tradition, hundreds of Iraqis are invited to 11 such banquets in the Sajud palace and Sajda hall, most recently on 1 December 2002, corresponding to 26 Ramadan, A.H. 1423.

3. The people of Iraq, together with international public opinion, are querying the reason for the visit to this presidential palace of hospitality. The objectives of the inspection teams are both stated and clear, namely to search for alleged biological, chemical and nuclear weapons. So which of these weapons did they look for in the Sajud palace and Sajda hall and what did they find there, bearing in mind that the inspectors who entered both premises took no precaution of wearing clothing or masks for protection against the alleged biological, chemical and nuclear agents?

Was this visit truly conducted in order to search for prohibited weapons or was it for other purposes?

The question which presents itself here is: is this an initial step towards the misconduct that will cause the relationship to resume the same tenor as existed between the former United Nations Special Commission and Iraq, or not? Is it a start of the misconduct which the United States, the United Kingdom and the Zionist entity want to impose on the United Nations?

UNMOVIC and IAEA are facing a serious test of their credibility and the extent of their commitment to the pledges which they professionally and objectively made to respect the Charter of the United Nations and international law. The coming days will reveal whether they maintain their neutral international identity or whether they will yield to United States and United Kingdom pressure and turn into a conduit and spying eye for objectives and purposes which are not mentioned in the resolutions of the Security Council but which are, on the contrary, objectives of the United States, the United Kingdom and the Zionist entity.